

Message Text

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ACTION AF-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 IO-13 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05

H-01 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 SP-02

SS-15 ICA-11 HA-05 AID-05 /099 W

-----028209 060634Z /23

P 061605Z JUL 78

FM AMEMBASSY PRETORIA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 1633

USMISSION USUN NEW YORK PRIORITY

INFO AMEMBASSY DAR ES SALAAM

AMEMBASSY GABORONE

AMEMBASSY LAGOS

AMEMBASSY LILONGWE

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY LUSAKA

AMEMBASSY MAPUTO

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PINT, PDEV, RH

SUBJECT: RHODESIA: MUZOREWA AND UANC GIVE CONFLICTING
SIGNALS

1. SUMMARY: MUZOREWA, DELIVERING AN ADDRESS IN JOHANNESBURG, ADMITTED THAT THE INTENAL SETTLEMENT WAS MOVING SLOWLY ON SOME FRONTS, PARTICULARLY A CEASEFIRE, BUT HE SAID, IT WAS DEVELOPING IN A "POSITIVE" DIRECTION AND WOULD MEET ITS OBJECTIVES OF ELECTIONS AND INDEPENDENCE BY THE END OF THE YEAR. AT THE SAME TIME, THE BISHOP'S UANC INFORMATION SECRETARY IN SALISBURY ACCUSES THE RHODESIAN FRONT OF A "A DETERMINED BID" TO MAINTAIN ITS POLICIES AND DEMANDED A GREATER PROMOTION FOR BLACKS IN THE CIVIL SERVICE, ARMY AND POLICE. END SUMMARY.

2. ON JULY 4, MUZOREWA ADDRESSED AN OPEN MEETING OF THE
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SOUTH AFRICAN INSTITUTE OF INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS IN JOHANNESBURG ATTENDED BY EMBOFFS. MUZOREWA GAVE A RATHER UNINSPIRED RATIONALIZATION AND PROMOTION OF THE INTERNAL SETTLEMENT IN HIS PREPARED REMARKS. DURING THE QUESTION PERIOD, HE BECAME MORE ANIMATED AND ANSWERED AT SOME LENGTH QUESTIONS ON THE POTENTIAL FOR SUCCESS OF THE SETTLEMENT AND THE REASONS FOR WORLD NON-RECOGNITION

OF IT. HE TOLD HIS AUDIENCE THAT THE EXECUTIVE COUNCIL MEMBERS HAD NO "IDEOLOGICAL" DIFFERENCES AND WERE COOPERATING. THINGS WERE MOVING SLOWLY TOWARDS A CEASEFIRE BUT HE EXPRESSED CONFIDENCE THAT ELECTIONS WOULD BE HELD ON TIME AND THAT THE MOVEMENT WAS "POSITIVE." MUZOREWA SAID "WITHIN 24 HOURS" A "DRAMATIC" ANNOUNCEMENT ON THE DROPPING OF RACIAL DISCRIMINATION WOULD BE GIVEN IN SALISBURY. HE QUALIFIED THIS BY SAYING THE MEASURES TO BE ANNOUNCED WOULD HAVE TO BE PASSED BY PARLIAMENT BUT HE PREDICTED DRAMATIC CHANGES IN RHODESIA SOON.

3. MUZOREWA HAD EMOTIONAL WORDS OF CONDEMNATION FOR NKOMO AND KAUNDA, REPEATING SEVERAL TIMES HIS BELIEF, EVEN UNDER SOME SKEPTICAL QUESTIONING, THAT KAUNDA'S PERSONAL PROMOTION OF NKOMO ACCOUNTED FOR OAU AND THEREBY WORLD SUPPORT OF THE PATRIOTIC FRONT. HE ACCUSED THE BRITISH AND AMERICANS OF "DANCING TO THE TUNE" OF KAUNDA'S DEMANDS. HE DID NOT DIRECT HIS REMARKS AT MUGABE, EXCEPT TO SAY ONCE IN PASSING THAT MUGABE SUPPORTED A MARXIST SOLUTION FOR RHODESIA. ON THE ALL-PARTIES CONFERENCE, MUZOREWA LIKENED IT TO GENEVA, INDICATING IT WOULD ACCOMPLISH NOTHING. HE DID, HOWEVER, LEAVE THE DOOR SLIGHTLY AJAR BY SAYING SUCH A MEETING COULD ONLY BE CONSIDERED IF IT WAS TO BE A POSITIVE AND PROGRESSIVE STEP.

4. MEANWHILE, PRESS ACCOUNTS SAY IN SALISBURY THAT THE LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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UANC ACTING INFORMATION SECRETARY, T. J. SAMKANGE, RELEASED A STATEMENT ON JULY 4 POINTEDLY CRITICIZING PUBLIC SERVICE AND JUSTICE CO-MINISTER HILARY SQUIRES FOR EARLIER REMARKS THAT MAJORITY RULE WOULD NOT MEAN SWEEPING CHANGES, INCLUDING IMMEDIATE AFRICANISATION. THE UANC STATEMENT SAID SQUIRES HAD NO AUTHORITY TO SPEAK FOR A MAJORITY RULE GOVERNMENT AND HIS REMARKS WERE A "DETERMINED BIT TO MAINTAIN RHODESIAN FRONT POLICIES AND FORCE THOSE POLICIES ON THE COUNTRY IN THE NAME OF THE SALISBURY ACCORD." SAMKANGE WENT ON TO SAY REPORTEDLY THAT CIVIL SERVICE AFTER MAJORITY RULE WOULD BE OPEN TO ALL RACES, BUT THAT POSTS HELD BY TEMPORARY, ELDERLY OR UNQUALIFIED WHITES WOULD BE GIVEN TO SUITABLY QUALIFIED BLACKS AND THERE SHOULD BE RAPID PROMOTION OF BLACKS IN THE ARMY, POLICE AND OTHER GOVERNMENT DEPARTMENTS.

5. COMMENT: THE ISSUE THAT STIRRED UP SAMKANGE IS THE SAME ONE INVOLVED IN THE HOVE AFFAIR-THE QUESTION OF AFRICANIZATION. THE CONTRAST BETWEEN MUZOREWA'S DEFENSE OF THE INTERNAL SETTLEMENT AND HIS ASSERTION OF A UNTIED OUTLOOK BY THE PARTICIPANTS ON THE ONE HAND AND SAMKANGE'S STATEMENT ON THE OTHER IS STRIKING.
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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 jan 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: POLITICAL SETTLEMENT, INTELLIGENCE ASSESSMENTS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 06 jul 1978
Decaption Date: 01 jan 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 20 Mar 2014
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1978PRETOR03784
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D780276-1102
Format: TEL
From: PRETORIA
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1978/newtext/t19780790/aaaacyce.tel
Line Count: 115
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: a968827a-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION AF
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 26 apr 2005
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 2103372
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: RHODESIA: MUZOREWA AND UANC GIVE CONFLICTING SIGNALS
TAGS: PINT, PDEV, RH
To: STATE USUN NEW YORK
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odb://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/a968827a-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Sheryl P. Walter
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
20 Mar 2014
Markings: Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014